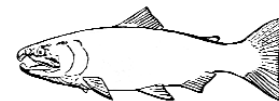


# Tips for Creating Field Journals



## Journal Tips

### Materials

- ☐ **Field Journal Sheets** for each student, teacher and chaperone
- ☐ One package blank paper and one package lined paper
- ☐ colored paper, card stock, or cardboard for journal covers
- ☐ magic markers or colored pencils for decorating covers
- ☐ 3-hole punch
- ☐ string, binding tape, or twigs and rubber bands for binding
- ☐ pencil on a string for each student
- ☐ two plastic pencil sharpeners and extra pencils for field trip
- ☐ one box of large ziplock bags to rainproof journals

### Procedures

1. Photocopy all of the unit handouts and provide each student with double-sided copies. Use recycled paper if it is available.
2. Provide five additional blank sheets of paper and five lined sheets of paper to each student.
3. Have students create front and back covers for their journals using blank sheets of paper.
4. Have students bind their journals using binding tape, hole punches and string, cardboard, or twigs bound by rubber bands threaded through holes. If they do not bind their journals, it is essential that students use a clipboard on the field trip.
5. Once journals are bound, have them decorate the covers.
6. Have each student attach a sharpened pencil on a long string through a hole in the journal binding.
7. Have students use magic markers to write their names on the front covers of their journals.
8. Students will need a sturdy writing surface behind their field journals. Incorporate cardboard as the last page or have clipboards available for each student.

### Extension ideas

1. Create a journal that is used throughout the year.
2. Share student journals with parents at open houses and/or to educate others.
3. Students may choose to use their journals to create a class newsletter, resource newspaper, or a class website.

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